

# A boat tour through London - Text

**Listen to the following text about “A boat tour through London”, you can hear the text two times, but please read the tasks first.**

**Mr. Braxton is with his school class on a school trip to London. The pupils are very excited, because it's their first trip to the capital of the United Kingdom. On the first morning the class is doing a boat trip on the Thames River. The guide gives some interesting information about famous sights for which London is known.**

***Some noise of the pupils goes through the benches...***

**Laura: Mr. Braxton, when does the tour begin? We're already a little bit nervous.**

**Mr. Braxton: OK children, shhhhhh! Be quiet! The tour starts every minute and you should listen to what the guide is telling you about the city. If there are any questions, don't be shy and ask! Now have fun enjoying our first adventure here.**

**Guide: Welcome on our boat, which is called “The Thames River White Lady”. My name is Susan. Today I will lead you through the tour the next 40 minutes. I hope you enjoy this trip and get some useful facts about the leading global city with more than eight million five hundred inhabitants. Our trip starts at the London Eye, which you can see on the left side the river. Also known as the Millennium wheel, the giant wheel is 135 metres high. It was opened on March 9, 2000 and has become the most popular tourist attraction in the United Kingdom with over three million visitors per year. Going on with the Houses of Parliament or also called the Palace of Westminster on the right side, this impressive building plays a very important role for our British political system, because there are two different houses, namely the House of Lords and The House of Commons, which make necessary political decisions on different subjects.**

**Tim: I'm sorry but may I interrupt you for a second? I've got a question, because I read in a magazine that the Houses of Parliament was destroyed two times. Is that right?**

**Guide: Oh yes, that's true. The first destruction was in 1834. A fire broke out in the Palace and the second time it was hit by bombs of German troops during the Second World War. But as you can see, the House was reconstructed and has a great influence in our politics in today's society. Next we move on with the scariest sight in London. If you aren't frightened of anything, you should go and visit the London Dungeon! I think it belongs to one of the capital's “must-see” attractions, because the shows there are based on real history and you will get personal with many scary characters like Jack the Ripper or Sweeney Todd. And when you look right in front of you, you can see the famous Victorian bridge, designed by Sir Horace Jones in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Now you may think, how boring. But I tell that isn't definitely not! The Tower Bridge offers so many things you only can be stunning of! There you explore its structure, you get some spectacular views, you step on the glass floor and at least you visit the overwhelming Victorian Engine Room. Now we're at the end of our tour. If there are any question left over, you can ask me later. Thank you for your attention and have a great day. Goodbye!**